

Figure 3 illustrates the trephine, punch or coring tool after the blade has been advanced through the apex of the ventricular wall of the heart, according to aspects of an embodiment of the invention.

Figure 4 illustrates the ventricular wall after removal of the trephine, punch or coring tool and the excised tissue, according to aspects of an embodiment of the invention.

Figure 5A illustrates another embodiment of a side view of the trephine, punch or coring tool with the anvil fully advanced, according to aspects of an embodiment of the invention.

Figure 5B illustrates a side view of the trephine, punch or coring tool with the anvil fully retracted against the cutter, according to aspects of an embodiment of the invention.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Amended) An apparatus adapted for cutting holes in a body vessel or hollow organ comprising:
a cutting blade,
a controlled force to advance the cutting blade, and
an anvil having a proximal surface against which the cutting blade is advanced wherein the cutting blade does not pass beyond the proximal surface of the anvil.

15. (Amended) An apparatus adapted for cutting holes in a body vessel or hollow organ comprising:
an anvil,
a cutting blade against which the anvil is advanced wherein the anvil positively stops against the cutting blade, and
a controlled force to advance the anvil.